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INSIDE:

FM man nabbed on methamphetamine charges in Task Force bust.

See page 2

Pen City Current Wednesday, Oct. 25, 2017 | 9 pages | Volume 1 • Issue 248

HTC hits \$230K with God's Portion Day

New Fund-A-Need adds twist to annual auction/benefit

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - It was a weekend of giving, and according to Holy Trinity Catholic officials, this past God's Portion Day was a good event for the kids.

Judy Pauly, the GPD Committee Chairwoman, said it was one of the better events in the past several years with funds raised tentatively set at \$230,580 from the weekend auction.

She said those funds go directly into the general fund to help with expenses of the district.

Pauly said one of the more unique auction items that went very well was the Dualing Pianos. She said all four parishes, Houghton, St. Paul, West Point and Fort Madison, split the tickets allotted for the event and auctioned them off separately which made for a very nice fundraiser.

"This was all due to the tremendous support from donors, buyers, sellers, auctioneers, and the numerous volunteers," Pauly said Tuesday morning. "As a friend once told me... 'It's All About The Kids."

Another new fundraiser added to the GPD lineup



this year was a "Fund-A-Need" event where "Teachers and staff at HTC are given a chance to ask for items

See FUNDRAISER, page 2

FM preschool numbers off slightly

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG

FORT MADISON -Fort Madison school officials are trying to figure out what is leading to the reduced enrollment in the district's free 4-year-old preschool program.

According to Kim Harmon, Fort Madison Community School District's director of curriculum and student services, the district has a capacity for 80 students in the 4-year-old free preschool program but right now there is still space for about 14 more students.

The district runs programs through Carousel Preschool and the Fort Madison YMCA. The YMCA, which runs morning and afternoon classes Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, currently has three openings. The Carousel Preschool which operates out of the Union Presbyterian Church in Fort Madison



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

YMCA Preschool Director Emily Hymes helps her preschool students move their stars at the end of class on Tuesday. The prechool program has three current openings and The Carousel program in Fort Madison currently has 11 openings for 4-year-old students.

has 11 openings available.

Harmon said the district provides funding to the preschool operators through a statewide voluntary preschool grant, which enables all 4-year-olds who aren't income eligible for Head Start to be put in the district's program at no charge to

the families.

"We provide the funding to them. We have two classes at each place and each class has a capacity of 20 students. So we have the ability to serve 80 for free and right now our numbers are well below that," Harmon said. "So if there are 4-year-olds that

aren't in a preschool we would love to have them and if they didn't get in at the beginning of the year, they can still get in."

Candy Barquam, who is the director and teacher at Carousel Preschool, said students must have turned four prior to Sept.

See SCHOOL, page 9

BLOODHOUND RECAP

Hounds need four games to eliminate Fairfield in regionals

2016 reset: Cedar Rapids Xavier up next in finals

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG

FORT MADISON - It looked like it was going to be a quick evening for the Fort Madison Bloodhound volley-

ball team on Tuesday night, but Fairfield had a different idea.



BAILEY

After Fort Madison had run out to a quick 2-0 nothing lead, Fairfield took control about a third of the way through game three to force a fourth game at the Hound Dome. The Bloodhounds won that game 25-22 to advance to the Region 7

finals against top-seeded and Class 4A top-ranked Cedar Rapids Xavier. That game is set for Monday at 7 p.m.

Fort Madison had swept two previous meetings with the Trojans and were on pace to sweep them again, pulling out to a quick 14-9 lead in the first game on a five-of-five serving run by senior Amber Dilsaver, that included three kills by Kaeli Hutson. After a scoring correction on a Fairfield point had the score at 16-12, the Trojans closed the gap to 16-15 before the Hounds took the game over.

Dilsaver had four kills in the next nine points sandwiched around a McKenna Fehseke kill and a rare Leigh

See **HOUNDS**, page 4

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Task force catches FM man with meth, tarmadol

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON - The Lee County Narcotics Task Force reports the arrest of a Fort Madison, Iowa man on misdemeanor drug charges.



WILSON

John Henry Wilson, 36, of 6008 Avenue O, Fort Madison, Iowa was arrested on October 20th, 2017 at his residence on misdemeanor drug charges. Wilson is charged with possession of methamphetamine,

a serious misdemeanor, possession of tramadol, a serious misdemeanor, and possession of drug paraphernalia, a simple misdemeanor, and maintaining a drug house, an aggravated misdemeanor. If convicted, Wilson faces up to 4 years and 30 days in a state correctional facility.

The arrest of Wilson stems from an investigation by the Lee County Narcotics Task Force into allegations that he was involved in the use of illegal narcotics in the Lee County area.

The Lee County Attorney's Office, Lee County Sheriff's Office and the Ft Madison Police Department assisted the Lee County Narcotics Task Force in this investigation.

The defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

The Lee County Narcotics Task Force is funded in part by the U.S. Department of Justice and the funds administered by the Iowa Governor's Office of Drug Control Policy.

New GDP program nets new equipment

FUNDRAISER - Continued from Page 1

they could really use in classrooms or at school but the money is not in the budget," Pauly said.

"This gives buyers a chance to help get items that they know will help. This year, four large items were requested with several smaller ones. Two of the larger requests included a reach in cooler and outside picnic tables for in front of school that the students use on a daily basis. Both brought in more money than was requested.

The two other large projects the donations helped purchase included two large can racks in the kitchen for \$300 and folder cabinets for the junior and senior high school choir members at \$900. Smaller items included a computer for the HTC library at \$300, a document camera for the English dept. - \$100, glass kiln and supplies for elementary art, two bean bag chairs for 3rd grade - \$60, Choices Magazine for Health class - \$142.50, Basic Beat Stir Xylophone for choir - \$18, and a set of musical posters for choir- \$60.

Pauly also gave an extra thanks to the auctioneers including Pat Steffensmeier from Steffensmeier Auctions, Dan and Corey Fraise of Fraise Real Estate and Auction Co., and Dan Sullivan and Jim Huff from Sullivan Auctions.

"We just really want to thank the community, the donors, the buyers, and the auctioneers who make this event special every year. It's so important to us and really is all about the kids," Pauly said.



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Pick 4 - Midday Pick 4 - Evening	Daily Daily	Noon 9:40 pm	12:20 pm 10:00 pm

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For the Record

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

10/20/17 - 11:42 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen bicycle in the 1100 block of 24th Street. 10/21/17 - 12:25 a.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Timothy Ernest Girous, 43 of Ewing, Mo., at the intersection at 12th Street and Avenue H on charges of eluding law enforcement, possession of methamphetamine, possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held. 10/21/17 - 12:30 a.m.

- Fort Madison Police arrested Alex E. Whitehead, 26 of LaBelle, Mo., at the intersection of 12th and Avenue H on a warrant. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held. 10/21/17 - 11:55 a.m.
- Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 2600 block of Avenue D. 10/21/17 - 4:23 p.m.
- Fort Madison Police

responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1300 block of Avenue G. 10/21/17 - 9:38 p.m.

- Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1900 block of Avenue E. 10/22/17 - 4:03 p.m.
- Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a gas drive off in the 1700 block of Avenue H. 10/22/17 - 5:36 p.m.
- Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1300 block of Avenue G. 10/22/17 - 11:04 p.m.
- Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in progress in the 5800 block of Avenue O. 10/23/17 - 7:14 a.m.
- Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 2800 block of Avenue K. 10/23/2017 - 10:27 a.m.
- Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 300 block of Crescent Lane. 10/23/2017 - 1:08 p.m.
- Fort Madison police responded to a report

of larceny/theft in 4500 block of Avenue O. 10/23/2017 - 1:27 p.m.

- Fort Madison police responded to a report of property damage accident in the 2000 block of 330th Avenue. 10/23/2017 - 3:02 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report
- of a larceny/theft in the 700 block of Avenue G. 10/23/2017 - 3:06 p.m. - Fort Madison police
- responded to a report of a burglary in the 1600 block of Avenue M. 10/23/2017 - 3:18 p.m.
- Fort Madison police arrested Douglas Scott Knittle, 49 of Fort Madison in the 800 block of Avenue E, on a warrant for pretrial release violation. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held. 10/23/2017 - 4:30 p.m.
- Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1400 block Avenue F.

Lee County Sheriff's report

10/20/17 - 9:08 a.m. - Lee

County Sheriff's deputies responded to a two-vehicle accident in the 2300 block of Hwy 16 where a vehicle driven by Jonathon Richard Wybenga, 63 of Fort Madison was struck from behind by a vehicle driven by Cory James Patterson, 27 of Oskaloosa, which caused Patterson's vehicle to slide into the ditch and flip on its side. Patterson was taken to Fort Madison Community Hospital. No other injuries or citations were reported at the scene. 10/20/17 - 3:18 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Quentin John Spencer, 18, of Keokuk at the Lee County Sheriff's office on a weekend hold. 10/20/17 - 5:18 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Johnathon Lloyd Totty, 28, of Fort Madison, at the Lee County Sheriff's office on a judgment entry. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and released for time served. 10/21/17 - 3:18 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies

arrested Thurman Purdiman, Jr., 50, of Keokuk at the Lee County Sheriff's office on a judgment entry. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and then released for time served. 10/22/17 - 2:45 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Garrett Wade Hotop, 21, of Fort Madison, in the 2900 block of Peavine Lane on a charge of assault. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and then released after paying a fine. 10/22/17 - 3:54 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Chance David McAfee Gadau, 18, of Fort Madison, in the 2900 block of Peavine Lane on a charge of possession of alcohol under age. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and then released on a promise to appear. 10/23/17 - no time given - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Douglas Scott Knittle, 49 of Iowa City, on a warrant for parole violation. He was taken to the Lee

County Jail and held. 10/23/17 - 3:46 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a two-vehicle accident near the intersection of Hwy. 2 and Hwy. 218. A vehicle driven by Jasmine Marie Danker-Cashman, 22, of Muscatine collided with a vehicle driven by Heather Denise Wilson. 30, Kahoka. Wilson was slowing to turn onto Hwy 218 when she was struck from behind by Danker-Cashman. No injuries were reported at the scene. Danker-Cashman was cited for driving while suspended and failure to maintain control. 10/23/17 - 7:28 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested David Allen Weaver, II. 47 of Fort Madison in the 2300 block of 263 Avenue on a charge of domestic assault/bodily injury. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held. Those listed above are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

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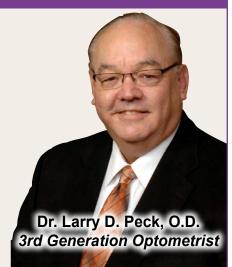
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Sports

Hounds overcome 0-8, fourth game deficit to advance

HOUNDS - Continued from Page 1

Johnson attack. Dilsaver added another kill at 24-18 and Olivia Williams put the game away on the next serve.

The writing was on the wall, of sorts, in the second game when the Hounds raced to a 21-16 lead and had the game in hand. But the Trojans made a game of it when the Hounds had three errors in a row to let Fairfield back in at 21-19 with Shaylin Drish scoring on three straight serves. A Bloodhound block stopped the run, but a net violation made it a two-point game 22-20. The teams would trade points to 24-22 before Dilsaver put the game away with a kill at 25-22.

The third game started the same as the others with the teams trading points in the early going with FMHS taking as much as a 4 point lead at 9-5 before the Trojans tied the game at 10 on a kill by junior Alison Godwin. The Trojans got the momentum at 10-

12 when Hutson's attack sailed wide right. Senior Courtney Woodley had a block to bring the Hounds back to within one at 11-12 and then Josie Pumphrey put up back-to-back aces to give Fort Madison the lead again 13-12.

The two teams suffered through three more ties at 13, 14, and 16 before Fairfield pushed the lead to 19-16. Dilsaver got the Hounds back within two at 17-19, but then the Trojans went on another 5-0 scoring run with some firepower of their own at the net and led 22-17. A kill by Jillian Wiseman brought the Hounds back within three at 20-23 and forced a Fairfield timeout. The Hounds got the next point out of the timeout, but Fairfield put two more on the board to lead 24-22 and won the game on the next service point.

The Trojans had a tiebreaker in mind going into the fourth game sprinting to an 8-0 run on eight straight service points by junior Kara Jeffrey. Woodley got a kill to get a sideout for Fort Madison. The Hounds' Kamryn Bailey came to the service line and served the Hounds back into the game with seven straight points, aided by two kills from senior Shyla Farmer and a kill by Dilsaver.

Dilsaver, who finished the night 38-42 hitting with 19 kills and three blocks, then tied the game up on a block at 10s and the ties were on again. With the score knotted at 12, 14, 20, and 22, Dilsaver got two back to back kills at 23 and 24 before Williams served for the game at 25-22.

Senior Leigh Johnson, who's led the Hounds all year in assists and setting up the middle and outside hitter, said she was nervous the season might end right there.

"I don't want to be done.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

FMHS' Shyla Farmer records an attack in late action Monday at the Hound Dome in the Bloodhounds' 25-18, 25-22, 22-25, 25-22 win over Fairfield. Below left, Kaeli Hutson gets an attack in game 2.

This is the last time ever playing high school volley-ball with my best friends and I just didn't want to be done," she said.

Johnson pointed to some timing issues and said the team has had some timing issues in the past, but tonight was worse than usual.

"We just needed to connect better. Our passes were off, our sets were off, and our hitting was out of bounds," Johnson said. "We just need to play better."

She said she's played club volleyball with five of the girls from Xavier and Monday will be a tough match.

Bailey was disappointed in his team's aggression during the second half of the match.

"At this point in the season, you have to play every point and there were times tonight we didn't do that as we'll as we're capable of," he said.

When the third game turned south for the Hounds, Bailey called a timeout to regroup.

"I wanted our kids to swing and hit the ball and we didn't do that," he said. "And it's frustrating because we have the best hitters in the conference and we're not swinging."

He, too, noticed the timing issues Johnson had mentioned, saying the setters and hitters were out of sync at different times during the evening. But he said the squad battled back from an 0-8 deficit to win the match and they'll need to come to play on Monday against the top-ranked Saints.

"Give Fairfield credit for making us work," he said. "They outplayed us in game 3 and jumped out to the 8-0 lead in game 4. Give our kids credit for battling back tying that game up at 10. Kamryn got us going with her serve and that seemed to jump start the passing and our hitting."

He said Xavier, who eliminated the Hounds last year at the same point, will bring good hitting.

"They've got two really good outside hitters and they're going to make us work for everything we get. The other side is that we've got a team that can compete with them if they want to go out and play.

When asked if he was looking for a little more physical play Monday, Bailey gave a one word answer.

"Absolutely."

Woodley hit 23-26, with seven kills and Feheske ended hitting 27-30 with six kills and Wiseman hit 22-30 with 12 kills and three blocks. Johnson led the Hounds with 43 assists and Bailey led the team with 22-23 serving with three aces.







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From the Front/Weather

Preschool officials looking to solve enrollment issues

SCHOOL - Continued from Page 1

15 to get in the program, but there is still plenty of room. Barquam's been teaching for 16 years.

She said she isn't really sure why enrollment is down unless the district just has a low population of 4-year-olds.

"I think you have to acknowledge that transportation is a challenge or some families. One of the reasons we'd like to build a new prek-3rd grade elementary is so we could bring those kids in and have transportation available for those families," Barquam said.

She said the program is very successful at helping the youngsters acquire skills and behaviors that help them assimilate better to kindergarten. Barquam has a Master's Degree in Literacy and incorporates those skills into the curriculum at the pre-school.

"We do a lot of large and small group activities to enhance areas of development such as fine motor skills, gross motor skills, literacy, social and emotional development language cognitive skills," she said.

Math and social studies activities are also part of the program in the form of art, songs, finger plays, and centers where they work on math. But the core areas aren't the only skills being introduced as part of the program.

"We also incorporate kindergarten readiness skills like alphabet, literacy, and letter sounds and knowledge. Obviously we also work with numbers, shapes - getting them to learn to hold pencils and even writing their names for kindergarten. We even teach them how to line up, walk in a straight line and then they can jump in at kindergarten and get started.

Harmon said the district gets funding from the state at about 1/2 the rate of students enrolled in K-12th grade in the district and funding for the programs was based on registrations as of Oct. 1.

Fort Madison does have a federally funded

Head Start program, but families have to be below income thresholds to qualify. It's a free program as well as the district's preschool program, so families have the choice of the two programs.

"We do have a Head Start program but you have to qualify for income thresholds," Harmon said. "There are families in the middle that can't afford private preschool and don't qualify for head start, and that's the demographic we're looking at."

A component of the loss of enrollment may be attributable to lack of transportation. Families currently have to find their own transportation for getting the preschool

students to and from the classes. However Central Lee recently opened up a preschool program within their buildings and were able to put transportation costs in their grant request.

Emily Hymes, the director of the YMCA program since its inception four years ago, said Central Lee was able to do that because the program operates under the school district, whereas Fort Madison's program is run through the private groups.

The YMCA program runs two classes each day Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday with a morning class from 8:30 to 11 a.m. and an afternoon class from 12:30 to 3 p.m. They do not hold

class on Wednesday.

Hymes agreed with Berquam that the new school would solve the problem, because the preschool programs would be incorporated into the school district at that point and transportation would then be available for the families.

Hymes said the YMCA approach to early learning is holistic.

"We take a whole child approach. We work on social and emotional issues, literacy, letters, letter sounds and names and those kinds of things, but a big piece is the social and emotional teaching, and I think people forget about that sometimes. The sharing and getting along with each other, that's important," she said.

More information on the Carousel Preschool can be obtained by calling 319-372-1424 and the YMCA program can be reached at 319-372-2403 ext. 4.

5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

WED Oct 25

Scattered Clouds
High – 50.7° F | Low – 38.8° F

THU Oct 26

Partly Cloudy
High– 62.1° F | Low – 51.4° F

FRI Oct 27



High- 56.0° F | Low - 45.0° F

SAT Oct 28



Light Rain High– 45.7° F | Low – 43.3° F

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